



FREE & FUN Curriculum-Based Programs



These opportunities for 6th, 7th and 8th grades challenge students with hands-on learning experiences that are correlated with Tennessee middle school curriculum standards. Each program enhances classroom learning by using Great Smoky Mountains National Park's cultural and/or natural resources as teaching tools. Students have the opportunity to make real-world connections with science and history, while having fun at the same time!

Program Description	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Biodiversity Classroom Students will generate and test a hypothesis to guide their examination of biodiversity in different park ecosystems. Examination methods can include setting up a ground plot, using microscopes, and classifying organisms. Location: Twin Creeks Science and Education Center (near Gatlinburg)	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0607 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Interdependence SPI 0607.2.1 SPI 0607.2.2	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0707 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0807 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Biodiversity and Change SPI 0807.5.1 SPI 0807.5.3 SPI 0807.5.2 SPI 0807.5.4
Stream Scientist Classroom Students will generate and test a hypothesis on the health of a river system. Examination methods can include water quality tests, identification of point and non-point pollution sources, and a benthic macroinvertebrate search and classification. Location: Various locations	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0607 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Interdependence SPI 0607.2.1 SPI 0607.2.2	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0707 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0807 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Biodiversity and Change SPI 0807.5.1 SPI 0807.5.3 SPI 0807.5.2 SPI 0807.5.4
Forest/Stream Biodiversity Classroom Students will discover the rich biodiversity of different ecosystems in the park. Examination methods include setting up a ground plot (forest), benthic macroinvertebrate search (stream), and classification. Location: Various locations	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0607 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Interdependence SPI 0607.2.1 SPI 0607.2.2	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0707 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0807 Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Biodiversity and Change SPI 0807.5.1 SPI 0807.5.3 SPI 0807.5.2 SPI 0807.5.4
Dig This! Archeology Classroom Students learn how park archeologists continually learn about historic and pre-historic cultures. Students participate in methods and techniques for discovering, cataloging, and preserving artifacts. Includes an exploratory hike. Location: Various locations	Social Studies Culture History 6.1 SPI.1 6.5 SPI.2 6.1 SPI.2 6.5 SPI.5 6.1 SPI.6 6.5 SPI.6	Social Studies Geography History 7.3 SPI.1 7.5 SPI.2 7.3 SPI.18 Individuals, Groups, and Interactions 7.6 SPI.1	Social Studies Culture History 8.1 SPI.2 8.5 SPI.2 8.1 SPI.3 8.5 SPI.11 8.1 SPI.6 Geography 8.3 SPI.3 8.3 SPI.6
Interdependence Classroom Students identify interrelationships of the Park's natural features while the connections between humans and natural resources are examined. Locations: Various locations	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0607 Inqs 2, 3, 4, 5 Interdependence SPI 0607.2.2 SPI 0607.2.4 SPI 0607.2.3	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0707 Inqs 2, 3, 4, 5	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0807 Inqs 2, 3, 4, 5

Program Description	6th Grade		7th Grade		8th Grade	
Appalachian Heritage Classroom Students explore the park while learning about the different groups who have called these mountains home. Examples include Cherokee Indians, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and European settlers. Location: Various locations This program can include a four-mile hike to a former Civilian Conservation Corps camp (from Sugarlands).	Social Studies Culture 6.1 SPI.1 6.1 SPI.2 6.1 SPI.6		Social Studies Culture History 7.1 SPI.1 7.5 SPI.2 Economics Ind., Groups, and 7.2 SPI.1 Interactions 7.2 SPI.2 7.6 SPI.1 7.6 SPI.3 Geography 7.3 SPI.18		Social Studies Culture Geography 8.1 SPI.2 8.3 SPI.3 8.3 SPI.6 Economics Ind., Groups, and 8.2 SPI.1 Interactions 8.2 SPI.4 8.6 SPI.1 8.6 SPI.4 8.6 SPI.2 8.6 SPI.5	
The Smokies Rocks! Classroom Students will hike to a scenic view to explore the Smokies geology and its impacts on local geography. Maps, compasses and GPS units are used. Location: Look Rock in Blount County, TN; various locations in development	Science Embedded Inquiry SPI 0607 Inq. 4 Embedded Tech./Eng. SPI 0607 T/E. 3 Interdependence SPI 0607.2.3	Social Studies Geography 6.3 SPI.2 				

All programs are FREE.

Bus assistance money may be available.

In addition, ALL programs address English/Language Arts (Communication) standards.

6th - SPI.0601.2.4, SPI.0601.2.5
7th - SPI.0701.2.7, SPI.0701.2.8
8th - SPI.0801.2.7, SPI.0801.2.8

For additional information or to reserve date(s) for you class:

Emily Guss, Park Ranger
865-436-1713
Emily_Guss@nps.gov